

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listing of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended): An image forming apparatus, comprising:
a writing device configured to write and form an image on a surface of an image
forming apparatus bearing member;
a developing device configured to develop the image formed on the surface of the
image bearing member; and
an upper duct provided on and a lower duct provided beneath a housing of the writing
device to form an outside-air flowing path; and
a single air intake fan configured to take outside-air into the upper duct and the lower
duct.

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Claim 2 (original): The image forming apparatus according to claim 1, wherein an opening is provided to the lower duct such that the opening is covered by the housing.

Claim 3 (original): The image forming apparatus according to claim 1, wherein an open upper side of the housing is covered by a scanner frame of an original document reading device, and wherein the upper duct is provided in the scanner frame.

Claim 4 (original): The image forming apparatus according to claim 3, wherein an opening is provided to the upper duct and is covered by the scanner frame.

Claim 5 (canceled)

Claim 6 (currently amended): The image forming apparatus according to claim 1, wherein a fan is provided to ~~an outside air intake inlet~~ and an air discharge outlet of at least one of the upper duct and the lower duct.

Claim 7 (original): The image forming apparatus according to claim 1, wherein scanning optical components formed of a plastic are used in the writing device.

Claim 8 (currently amended): The image forming apparatus according to claim 1, wherein ~~an~~ outside-air that ~~flowed~~ flows through at least one of the upper duct and the lower duct is used to cool components other than the writing device.

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CONT.

Claim 9 (currently amended): The image forming apparatus according to claim 1, wherein ~~an~~ outside-air that ~~flowed~~ flows through at least one of ~~or both of~~ the upper duct and the lower ducts duct is used to remove ozone produced in the image forming apparatus.

Claim 10 (currently amended): An image forming apparatus, comprising:
means for writing and forming an image on a surface of an image ~~forming~~ apparatus
bearing member;

means for developing the image formed on the surface of the image bearing member;
and

an upper duct provided above and a lower duct provided beneath a housing of the writing means to form an outside-air flowing path; and

means for taking outside-air into the upper duct and the lower duct.

Claim 11 (original): The image forming apparatus according to claim 10, wherein an opening is provided to the lower duct such that the opening is covered by the housing.

Claim 12 (original): The image forming apparatus according to claim 10, wherein an open upper side of the housing is covered by a scanner frame of an original document reading device, and wherein the upper duct is provided in the scanner frame.

Claim 13 (original): The image forming apparatus according to claim 12, wherein an opening is provided to the upper duct, and the opening is covered by the scanner frame.

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cont.
Claim 14 (canceled)

Claim 15 (currently amended): The image forming apparatus according to claim 10, wherein a fan is provided to ~~an outside air intake inlet and a~~ an air discharge outlet ~~to of~~ at least one of the upper duct and the lower duct.

Claim 16 (original): The image forming apparatus according to claim 10, wherein scanning optical components formed of a plastic are used in the writing means.

Claim 17 (currently amended): The image forming apparatus according to claim 10, wherein outside-air that flows through at least one of the upper duct and the lower duct is used to cool components other than the writing means.

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Claim 18 (currently amended): The image forming apparatus according to claim 10,
wherein outside-air that flows through at least one of the upper duct and the lower ~~ducts~~ duct
is used to remove ozone produced in the image forming apparatus.